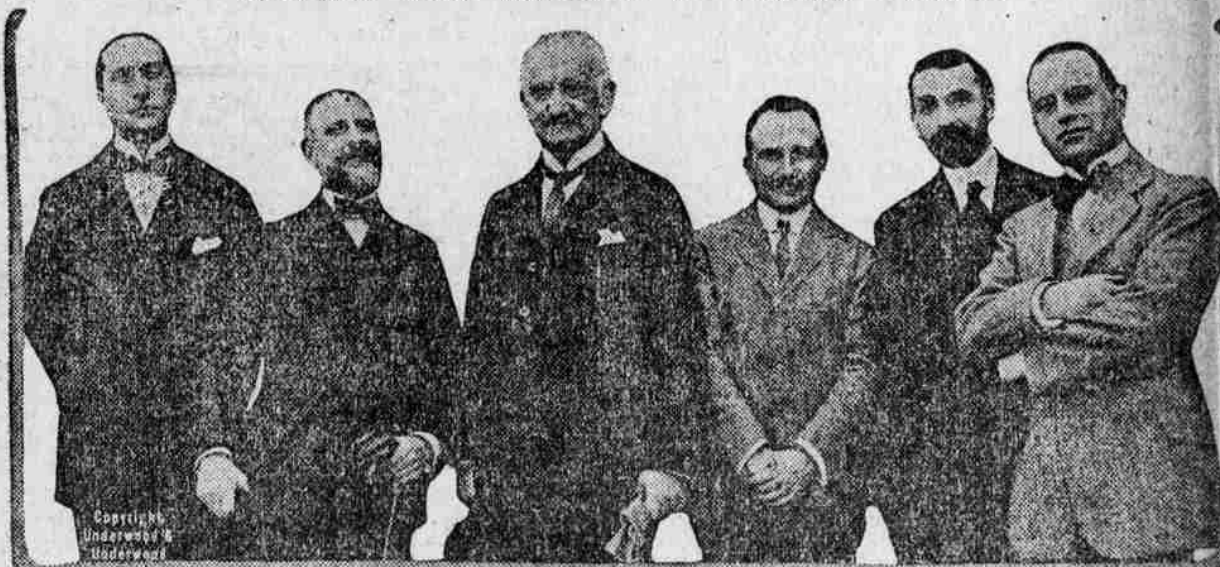


1—Maj. William Barclay Parsons, who built the New York subway, one of the engineer officers that will go to France. 2—Walter Siddall of Washington who, though only fifteen years old, holds a first-class wireless operator's license. 3—Constructing cement barracks for the officers' training camp near Fort Myer, Va. 4—Former Russian exiles about to embark at San Francisco for their native land.

### ITALIAN WAR MISSION TO UNITED STATES



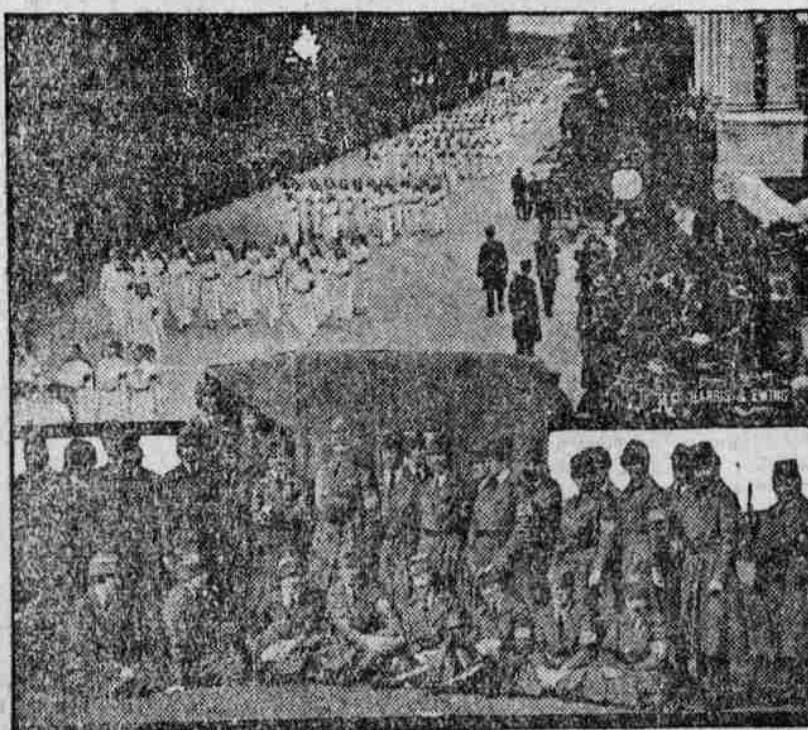
Italy's war mission to this country arrived quietly and is now busy in Washington. Those members in the illustration are, left to right: Alvise Bragadini of the transportation department; General Gugliemetti, military attaché; Enrico Ariotti, minister of maritime and railway transportation of Italy and head of the commission; Commander Vannutelli, representing the navy, G. Pardo of the department of industry and commerce, and Gaetano Pietra of the agricultural department.

### SENDING WORD TO THEIR COUNTRYMEN



The French along the western front have devised a clever method of keeping the French people in the territory captured by the Germans informed of the progress of the war. The French aeronautical service uses the small balloons shown in the picture for this purpose. Newspapers and pamphlets are tied to the balloons, which are practically invisible at a great height.

### RED CROSS PARADE IN WASHINGTON



The new American Red Cross building in Washington dedicated the other day, and a part of the exercises was the parade of 1,000 women in Red Cross uniforms, which was reviewed by the president. This parade is shown in the upper part of the illustration. Below is a group of Washington society women who have been training as motor ambulance drivers.

### YOUNG McADOO IN THE NAVY



William G. McAdoo, son of the secretary of the treasury, in the uniform of the New York Naval Militia. He is classed as a third-class electrician and attached to the aeronautical division of the militia at Bay Shore.

#### Sawdust in Concrete.

Nails can be driven into concrete if sawdust has been added to the mixture. The proportions of one part of cement, two of sand, and three-quarters of sawdust will produce a concrete in which nails will hold.

The addition of sawdust appears to increase the tendency of concrete to absorb water, but the application of waterproof paint helps to eliminate this difficulty.

Concrete of these proportions is quite apt to crumble and will not stand much usage. It should be used only in floors and other places where it is to be covered with a protecting surface of boards or flooring of some sort.

#### To Break Up Big Ranches.

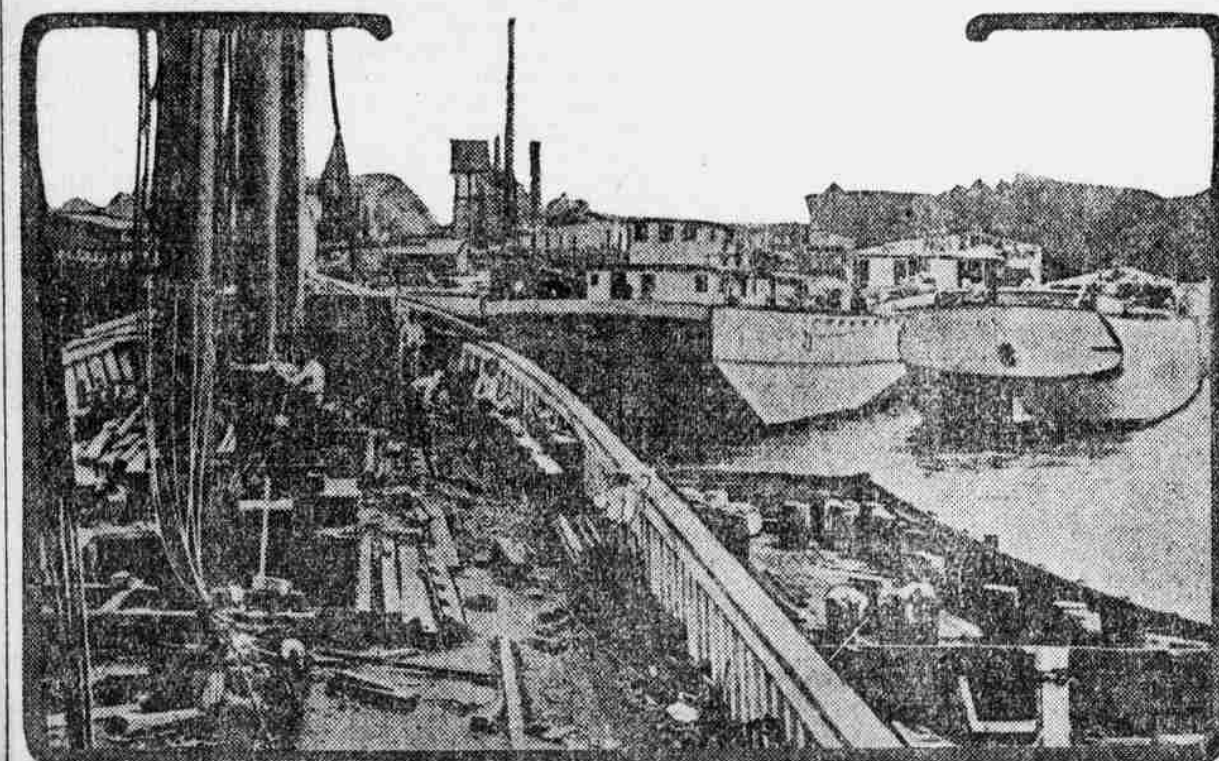
In California the farms originally were the old "Spanish land grants," usually of enormous extent. In a fashion these great holdings—valued by the American government when California came into the Union—have remained as ranches. Today the people are learning that both for taxation and production, small farms are better, and a movement to bring this about is under way.

### FRENCH COMMISSION AT INDEPENDENCE HALL



M. Viviani, Marshal Joffre and the other members of the French war commission arriving at Independence hall, Philadelphia.

### BUILDING AN AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE



General scene at the shipyards of the Clooney Construction and Towing company at Westlake, La. This yard is the largest in the country to build exclusively wooden vessels. Three four-masted schooners, with carrying capacities of 1,000 to 2,000 tons, are shown in the process of construction. They will be added to the American merchant marine in a few weeks.

### MAY WED MRS. VANDERBILT



John McF. Bowman, president of the company operating the Biltmore hotel in New York, who, according to rumor, is to marry Mrs. Alfred G. Vanderbilt, widow of one of the Lusitania victims.

### OBJECT TO GERMAN POSTERS



German posters put up in the French villages occupied by the kaiser's forces are naturally distasteful to the inhabitants. This photograph shows how they treated the placards reproducing a speech by Von Bethmann-Hollweg.

#### Feeding Cost of Pullet.

The cost of feeding an average Leghorn pullet during one year is slightly more than \$1.

### FRENCH JACKIES IN WALL STREET



Group of French jackies on shore leave visiting the statue of George Washington at the subtreasury in Wall street.

#### Wild Food in England.

Woman food experts have started a country-wide campaign to teach British housewives what food economy means and how to use the neglected resources in England's "wild food." The women have started a campaign after the fashion of an electioneering tour in the United States. They are making speeches in theaters, public halls and from soap boxes on street corners.

The possibilities of "wild food" are declared by one expert to be so great that country people and the inhabitants of small towns can supply two-thirds of their needs for at least three-quarters of the year from the fields, woods and streams of their immediate vicinity. This expert declares that there are more than 200 kinds of food in the British isles which nature produces unassisted. They include birds

and their eggs, edible frogs, fishes, some insects and insect products—such as honey of half a dozen wild bee species, more than 30 vegetables, salad plants and herbs, the same number of flowers and fruits, seven species of seaweeds and nearly 50 esculent fungi.

#### Ambergria.

Ambergria is a gray, waxlike substance believed to be the product of some disease in the sperm whale. It is sometimes found floating on the surface of tropical seas and is also discovered in the intestines of the sperm whale when captured. Modern scientists have found it impossible to duplicate the pungent and penetrating odor of ambergria. Fifty dollars an ounce is a price that has often been paid for this comparatively rare product of commerce.